



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

HACKENSACK MEADOWLANDS, NJ

Lyndhurst Riverside Marsh

**Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration - Continuing
Authorities Program Section 206**

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The study area site is part of the large 20,000 acre Hackensack Meadowlands Complex. This area was historically characterized mainly by Atlantic white cedar forest prior to inhabitation, development and utilization by early European settlers. The loss of the cedar forest and subsequent damming and channelization of the Hackensack River, along with extensive fills and alterations to the Hackensack Meadowlands itself, have changed the hydrology and hydraulics that affect circulation and tidal patterns. These actions, coupled with the introduction of a non-native species of *Phragmites* have dramatically altered the vegetation composition, value and diversity within the Meadowlands.

In partnership with the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission, the Corps is assessing the feasibility of ecosystem restoration measures at the Lyndhurst Riverside Marsh Site. This 31-acre site has a significantly reduced level of biodiversity due to the invasion of *Phragmites australis* vegetation. Potential restoration measures could seek to reestablish a native salt marsh habitat, and may include re-grading, the creation of tidal channels, replanting with native species, or other changes to the existing hydrology to support high value habitat.

AUTHORIZATION: Section 206, Water Resources Development Act of 1996, as amended (33 U.S.C. 2330).

STATUS: This study, a small Continuing Authorities “spin-off” of the larger Hudson-Raritan Estuary – Hackensack study, is currently suspended due to funding shortfalls.

PROJECT COST:

Approximate Feasibility Study Cost: \$800,000

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District Area: NJ # 9, Congressional Member: Steven R. Rothman